

## Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO WHITE HOUSE PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 125798

NODIS

FOR DR BRZEZINSKI ONLY

FOLLOWING REPEAT CARIO 9089 ACTION SECSTATE JUNE 1.

QUOTE S E C R E T CAIRO 9089

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, EG

SUBJECT: MILITARY SUPPLY AND POSSIBLE SALE OF LICENSED EQUIPMENT  
TO EGYPT

REF: (A) STATE 111881, (B) STATE 111882, (C) CAIRO 8676

SUMMARY: DISCUSSED REFERENCE SUBJECTS WITH GAMASY LAST  
NIGHT. HE UNDERSTANDS IMPORTANCE AVOIDING ANY PREMATURE  
PUBLICITY ON THE FIVE MILITARY SPPLY ITEMS. ON POSSIBLE  
SALE OF LICENSED EQUIPMENT, GAMASY INDICATED THAT BECAUSE  
OF PAST UNCERTAINTY WITH U.S. LICENSING PROCEDURES, HE  
HAS GIVEN INSTRUCTIONS TO HIS PEOPLE NOT TO SOLICIT  
OFFERS FROM AMERICAN COMPANIES. ON SPECIFIC ITEMS FOR  
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POSSIBLE LICENSING, GAMASY KNEW NOTHING ABOUT AIR TRAFFIC  
CONTROL SYSTEM AND INDICATED GOE IS NOT INTERESTED IN  
RADIOS OR AMERICAN-MANUFACTURED UTILITY HELICOPTERS.  
GOE HAS MADE ARRANGEMENTS OBTAIN THESE TIEMS FROM  
EUROPEAN SOURCES. DRONES AND PASSIVE NIGHT VISION  
DEVICES ARE OF SOME INTEREST TO HIM, BUT HE WISHED TO  
LOOK INTO THE MATTER AND MIGHT BE IN TOUCH WITH ME

AGAIN ON THE SUBJECT. AS A MATTER OF POLICY, GAMASY INDICATED GOE PREFERES TO WORK ON A GOVT-TO-GOVT BASIS RATHER THAN DIRECTLY WITH THE COMPANIES. ACCORDING TO HIM, THIS IS PROCEDURE GOE FOLLOWS WITH EUROPEAN PURCHASES. SHOULD GOE WANT SOMETHING FROM A PARTICULAR AMERICAN COMPANY, HE PROPOSED TO WORK THROUGH US. IN HIS JUDGMENT, HOWEVER, SUCH NEEDS ARE LIKELY TO BE "MINIMAL OR NIL." END SUMMARY.

1. AS REQUESTED BY SADAT, I MET LAST NIGHT WITH DEPUTY PRIMIN/MINWAR GENERAL GAMASY TO DISCUSS REFERENCE SUBJECTS. THE PRESIDENT HAD ALREADY GIVEN HIM SOME IDEA OF WHAT WAS INVOLVED.

2. I FIRST TOLD HIM ABOUT THE FIVE MILITARY SUPPLY ITEMS (REF B) RE WHICH WE ARE NOW ENGAGED IN CONSULTING WITH THE CONGRESS. IN DOING SO, I STRESSED THE SENSITIVITY OF THE SUBJECT AND THE IMPORTANCE OF AVOIDING ANY PRE-MATURE PUBLICITY. GAMASS TOOK NOTES ON THE FIVE ITEMS AND COMMENTED DRYLY THAT IT IS NOT HIS PRACTICE TO ENGAGE IN PUBLICITY ABOUT MILITARY PURCHASES.

3. I THEN WENT OVER THE FIVE CATEGORIES CITED REF A, STRESSING THAT I COULD NOT AT THIS TIME MAKE ANY COMMITMENT ON ANY OF THE ITEMS BUT WAS SIMPLY SEEKING CLARIFICATION OF EXACTLY WHAT GOE'S INTEREST MIGHT BE. I ALSO EMPHASIZED THE PROBLEM OF CO-PRODUCTION AND TOLD HIM THAT OUR APPROACH WAS BASED SOLELY ON POSSIBLE SALES TO EGYPT, NOT TO THE AIO, ABOUT WHICH WE HAD NOT YET DEVELOPED  
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AN OVER-LL POLICY.

4. AS I WAS GOING DOWN THE LIST, GAMASY STOPPED ME TO SAY HE WISHED TO EXPLAIN MINWAR POLICY ON PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT FROM AMERICAN COMPANIES. MINWAR HAS INDEED RECEIVED A LARGE NUMBER OF PROPOSALS FROM SUCH COMPANIES, COVERING EVERYTHING FROM COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT TO HELICOPTERS. HOWEVER, GIVEN THE UNCERTAINTY OF USG LICENSING, HE HAD SOMETIME AGO GIVEN ORDERS TO HIS PEOPLE NOT TO SOLICIT OFFERS FROM ANY AMERICAN COMPANY. SIMILAR INSTRUCTIONS HAD BEEN GIVEN TO THE EGYPTIAN MILITARY ATTACHE IN WASHINGTON NOT TO APPROACH ANY AMERICAN COMPANY. GAMASY PERSONALLY SAID HE HAS REFUSED TO SEE REPRESENTATIVES FROM AMERICAN COMPANIES FOR THE SAME REASONS. IN ANY CASE, SO FAR AS HE IS CONCERNED, HE DOES NOT WANT MINWAR TO DEAL DIRECTLY WITH AMERICAN COMPANIES. AS GOE IS DOING WITH UK, FRANCE AND OTHERS, ANY MILITARY EQUIPMENT SALES SHOULD BE ARRANGED ON A GOVT TO GOVT BASIS. HE WISHED TO FOLLOW

THE SAME PROCEDURE IN CONNECTION WITH POSSIBLE PURCHASES FROM AMERICAN COMPANIES IF MINWAR CONCLUDES AT ANY TIME IT WANTS SOMETHING FROM A PARTICULAR AMERICAN COMPANY. HE OPINED SUCH NEEDS ARE LIKELY TO BE "MINIMAL OR NIL," AS HE PUT IT.

5. ON THE SPECIFIC ITEMS FOR POSSIBLE LICENSING, GAMASY SAID HE KNEW NOTHING ABOUT AN AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL SYSTEM REQUEST. THIS HAD NOT COME FROM MINWAR AND HE IS NOT INTERESTED IN SUCH EQUIPMENT. ON SELECTED COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT, GAMASY ALSO INDICATED HE IS NOT INTERESTED. VARIOUS TYPES OF RADIOS HAVE ALREADY BEEN BOUGHT FROM EUROPEAN FIRMS. UTILITY HELICOPTERS HAD ALSO BEEN BOUGHT FROM EUROPEAN SOURCES AND HE HAD NO NEED FOR AMERICAN HELICOPTERS.

6. GAMASY DID INDICATE A POSSIBLE INTEREST IN TARGET DRONES AND PASSIVE NIGHT VISION DEVICES, BUT SAID THAT  
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HE COULD NOT AT THIS TIME PROVIDE ANY DETAILS. HE WOULD WANT TO LOOK INTO THE MATTER AND MIGHT BE IN TOUCH WITH ME AGAIN ON IT.

7. COMMENT: AS IS EVIDENT FROM THE ABOVE, GAMASY HAS PRETTY MUCH GIVEN UP AMERICAN FIRMS AS A POSSIBLE SOURCE OF NONLETHAL EQUIPMENT USABLE BY THE MILITARY. WE MAY, HOWEVER, HEAR FROM HIM ON THE DRONES AND PASSIVE NIGHT VISION DEVICES AND CONCEIVABLY HE MAY COME UP WITH SOME OTHER ITEMS. FOR THE MOMENT, THE BALL IS ENTIRELY IN THE EGYPTIAN COURT AND I THINK WE SHOULD LEAVE IT THERE UNTIL AND UNLESS WE HEAR FROM GAMASY ABOUT ONE OR ANOTHER OF THESE ITEMS. IN THAT EVENT, WE WILL HAVE TO DECIDE WHETHER WE ARE PREPARED TO LICENSE SUCH EQUIPMENT AND, IF SO, WHETHER WE ARE PREPARED TO ACT IN AN INTERMEDIARY CAPACITY BETWEEN THE EGYPTIAN GOVT AND THE AMERICAN COMPANY AS WE ARE DOING WITH LOCKHEED IN CONNECTION WITH C-130'S. I WILL CHECK WITH CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITIES ON THE AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL SYSTEM  
EILTS UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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## Message Attributes

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